

Human Rights Campaign Fund

New England Committee PO Box 2430 Boston, MA 02208

June 7, 1982

Dear Friend,

Thousands of Americans have received letters recently warning them of a "gay conspiracy" which threatens the stability of the United States. "The time for us to attack is now!" writes Jerry Falwell. "The enemy is in our camp!"

Frightened people, according to Falwell's boast, are sending the Moral Majority and other reactionary groups hundreds of thousands of dollars to wage war against us. The battleground is in Congress. They know that if they can get rid of people like Barney Frank, Gerry Studds and Ted Kennedy like they did in 1980 with George McGovern and Frank Church, they will set gay rights back by more than a decade. And, if they can push through their insidious Family Protection Act, they will hammer shut millions of closet doors.

We feel lesbians and gay men can't afford to lose any more ground. We feel that too many of us have grown fat and lazy from the days when we were invited to meetings in the White House. There aren't any invitations coming from the White House today!

The Human Rights Campaign Fund is part of the conspiracy Jerry Falwell is warning everyone about. We're a political action committee which is conspiring to reclaim the Constitution as our own. We're a loosely-knit group of New England lesbians and gay men who want to stop the anti-gay backlash in November. We're doing it by raising campaign money to make sure our enemies are defeated in the next election and our friends are returned to Congress. We're part of a national effort associated with the Gay Rights National Lobby.

Will you join us in the fight? Will you be a part of our conspiracy? Our kick-off event is being held Thursday, June 17 from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Napoleon Club at 52 Piedmont Street in Boston. The \$25 donation for this Gay Pride Week Celebration will go to the primary battles being fought today. Later in the year, we will be announcing our exciting plans for a big bash which will bring us together in a star-studded way.

Tickets are available at the door or from any member of the Human Rights Campaign Fund. Help us give the conspiracy a war chest!

Martha Jones

Brian McNaught

Steve Tierney

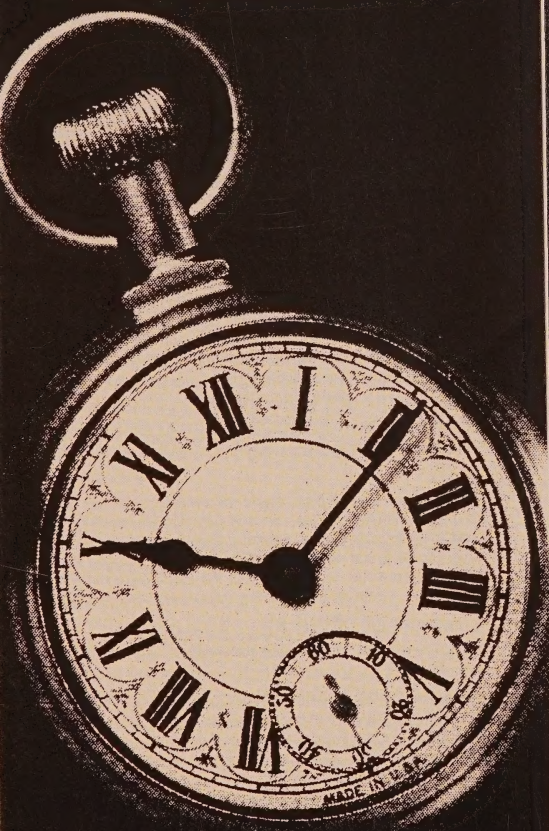
David Lund

Elaine Noble

And others

Richard Pillard

***Nothing is
as powerful
as an idea
whose time
has come...***



Privacy Rights '82

A project of
The Human Rights Campaign Fund

The Human Rights Campaign Fund is a Political Action Committee which will help Congressional candidates committed to justice and civil rights for lesbians and gay men.

"The groups that win their legislative fights are the ones that get involved in congressional elections," says Brent Blackwelder, Chairman of the League of Conservation Voters. "Participating actively in elections is important because it shows you have clout."

By contributing to Congressional candidates and also providing volunteer assistance in campaigns, The Human Rights Campaign Fund will send an important message: We will participate in the electoral process and make a difference in our lives.

The Human Rights Campaign Fund has gained a broad-based backing, with a prestigious Advisory Committee and Board of Directors. And we have the behind-the-scenes advice and assistance of some of the best political experts in Washington D.C. and elsewhere.

Here are some of the most commonly asked questions—

Question:

What makes Privacy Rights '82/Human Rights Campaign Fund different from the other national gay and lesbian rights organizations?

Answer:

The Gay Rights National Lobby and other similar groups are, for tax purposes, social welfare organizations which are prohibited from direct participation in political campaigns. Therefore, a national gay-supportive political action committee was created. The Human Rights Campaign Fund does not seek to replace or compete with existing organizations.

Question:

What happens to money the Human Rights Campaign Fund receives?

Answer:

Your donation will make a significant difference in the lives of countless individuals. Funds given will aid the campaigns of co-sponsors and supporters of the federal bill prohibiting discrimination against gay people in employment, housing, etc. Your contribution will also be used to mount extensive campaigns against congressional supporters of bills and amendments that would deny gay citizens access to taxpayer-funded government programs and services, such as the so-called "Family Protection Act" and "McDonald Amendment."

Question:

Will Human Rights Campaign Fund really make a difference in the effort for fairness for gay people?

Answer:

Yes. One of the major barriers to positive positions on gay civil rights issues by elected officials is their fears of political backlash by outraged constituents. Consequently, election activities by those concerned with achieving justice for lesbians and gay men are particularly important.

Question:

Who supports the Human Rights Campaign Fund?

Answer:

We receive contributions from a wide variety of people: lesbian and gay men, their families and friends, and many other individuals who believe in basic fairness. Our contributors include Democrats, Republicans, and those who are neither. Our contributors are united by their commitment to civil rights, human dignity and equal justice for gay people.

Question:

But I get requests from many different political action committees every month who are fighting Moral Majority and the New Right. Why should I give to Privacy Rights '82/Human Rights Campaign Fund?

Answer:

Indeed, there are many groups raising funds which oppose the Moral Majority and the New Right, and a number of them are worthwhile. However, the Human Rights Campaign Fund is the only national political action committee which makes positions on fairness for gay people and commitment to individual rights and privacy the central criteria for candidate support. With your help, HRCF will have a unique impact on the political process.

Question:

Does my Privacy Rights '82/HRCF donation change my taxes?

Answer:

Yes. Because Privacy Rights '82/Human Rights Campaign Fund is a federal political action committee, contributions to HRCF are eligible for a tax credit on your income tax returns. You can receive a tax credit for one-half of your political contributions: up to a \$50.00 maximum credit on an individual return, \$100.00 for joint returns.

"Not even the Dade County and 'No on 6' campaigns have been as important as the success of Privacy Rights '82/Human Rights Campaign Fund. HRCF, for the first time, creates the context for us to regain the initiative for establishing our rights. This effort has my support, enthusiasm and energy, and I hope it will have yours."

—David B. Goodstein
Owner, *The Advocate*

"In the 24 years I've been active in the Gay Civil Rights movement, we've come a long way. This is progress that many today almost take for granted. To continue that process and, in fact, keep the clock from being turned back, Privacy Rights '82/HRCF's efforts are essential."

—Barbara Gittings
Head of the Gay Task Force,
American Library Association

"1980 saw the emergence of the so-called 'New Christian Right', preaching a politics of hate and vengeance, rather than love and justice. HRCF's effort to defend our friends from the scathing attacks of Moral Majority is critically important. All people committed to social justice, regardless of sexual orientation, should actively support this important organization."

—Reverend Troy Perry
Founder, Universal Fellowship of
Metropolitan Community Churches

"We have a golden opportunity to transform the perception of the Gay Civil Rights issue and, in fact, the entire equation under which we operate on Capitol Hill. If we don't make the Human Rights Campaign Fund succeed, we will not only have failed our Congressional friends but ourselves."

—Steve Endean
Executive Director, Gay Rights
National Lobby

"If we are ever to pass basic fair employment, fair housing legislation for lesbian and gay people, Members of Congress have to understand that supporting Gay Civil Rights is not only not politically suicidal but can be actually beneficial. In that context, the Campaign Fund's success is extremely important."

—Jean O'Leary
Former Co-Executive Director
National Gay Task Force

"Congratulations on your creation of the Human Rights Campaign Fund. Our experience has been that members of Congress take us far more seriously when they know we'll be able to help them at election time, or for that matter, contribute to their opponents if they oppose us. The challenge now is to raise the funds to make it the success it needs to be."

—Carol Bros
Director of Political Programs,
National Women's Political Caucus

The Human Rights Campaign Fund/Privacy Rights '82

Yes!

I want to help elect pro-human rights candidates to Congress this fall.
Enclosed is my donation for:

☐ \$25 ☐ \$50 ☐ \$100 ☐ \$200 ☐ \$500 ☐ \$1,000 ☐ Other

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Make check payable to:

☐ The Human Rights Campaign Fund, and return it, with this form, to: P.O. Box 1396, Washington, D.C. 20013

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(Organizations, affiliations are for identification purposes only)

The Human Rights Campaign Fund

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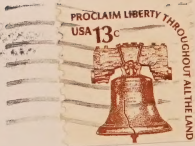
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